b.) Remarks

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner asserts that Applicant's arguments have been considered but has not been found persuasive because the Examiner contends promoting adenosine uptake increases bronchospasm associated with asthma.

Respectfully submitted, the Examiner's position is incorrect.

1. Extracellular adenosine does not cause bronchoconstriction intracellularly, but acts on an adenosine receptor on a cell membrane to thereby cause bronchoconstriction.

2. Nucleotide transporters (including that of the present invention) take in and eliminate extracellular adenosine (having a high concentration). They do not release intracellular adenosine.

3. Dipyridamole is an inhibitor of nucleotide transporters (equilibrative nucleoside transporter family including that of the present invention), and inhibits the decrease of extracellular adenosine concentration by inhibiting the uptake (deletion) of adenosine into cells as described in point 2 above. Thus, the adenosine receptor on a cell membrane is activated to thereby cause bronchoconstriction.

The references provided in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement evidence that the concentration of adenosine is elevated in the lung of asthmatic and that adenosine-induced bronchoconstriction is mediated by A(l) receptor on the cell membrane.

A verified English translation of Applicants' priority application JP 10/241248 filed August 27, 1998 is filed herewith.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Lawrence S. Perry/
Lawrence S. Perry
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 31,865

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

LSP/ac

FCHS_WS 2367977_1.DOC